



14 June 2015

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

WITNESSES AND PARTNERS OF GOD'S WONDERS

Today we are invited to meditate on the wonder of God's Kingdom. This marvelous gift has its roots in the love of the Lord for all mankind. It is God's PROJECT and this very fact guarantees the success of this undertaking in which all human beings are invited to participate as partners.

This project of the Kingdom was launched by God's Incarnate Son, Jesus Christ. It found in him not only the most zealous herald, but also its most perfect actualization and, therefore, our most inspiring model to emulate.

In this Eucharist we will praise the Lord for the marvelous growth of the Kingdom in ourselves and around us. We will also thank Him for having made us not only witnesses of these wonders, but also His humble partners in facilitating the growth of the Kingdom.



INTRODUCTORY RITES



Entrance Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Entrance Hymn is sung.)

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help. Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Savior!

Greeting

P –Blessed be the Lord our God, who is the origin and the fulfillment of the “Kingdom of God.” May His grace and peace be with you all!

All—**And with your spirit!**

Penitential Act

P –As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist, let us call to mind the times our actions did not reflect the values of the Kingdom. *(Pause)*

P –Lord Jesus, you were sent by

the Father to proclaim and establish God's Kingdom on earth. Lord, have mercy!

All—**Lord, have mercy!**

P –Lord Jesus, you are the perfect fulfillment and model of the Kingdom. Christ, have mercy!

All—**Christ, have mercy!**

P –Lord Jesus, you have called us to be your partners in the proclamation and the establishment of God's Kingdom. Lord, have mercy!

All—**Lord, have mercy!**

P – May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All—**Amen!**

Gloria

All—Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God,

heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen!

Collect *(Opening Prayer)*

P –O God, strength of those who hope in you, graciously hear our pleas, and, since without you, mortal frailty can do nothing, grant us always the help of your grace, that in following your commands we may please you by our resolve and our deeds.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and

reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All—Amen!

LITURGY OF THE WORD



1st Reading Ez 17:22-24

The Israelites felt forsaken by the Lord as they were rotting in exile in Babylon, away from their homeland and oppressed by their masters. Through the prophet Ezekiel, the Lord gave them hope as He revealed the glorious future He had in store for them.

R —A proclamation from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord God:

I, too, will take from the crest of the cedar, from its topmost branches tear off a tender shoot, and plant it on a high and lofty mountain; on the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it. It shall put forth branches and bear fruit, and become a majestic cedar. Birds of every kind shall dwell beneath it, every winged thing in the shade of its boughs. And all the trees of the field shall know that I, the Lord, bring low the high tree, lift high the lowly tree, wither up the green tree, and make the withered tree bloom. As I, the Lord, have spoken, so will I do.

The Word of the Lord!

All—Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm Ps 92

R —*Lord, it is good to give thanks to you!*

R. M. Velez



* It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your

name, Most High, to proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night. R.

* The just one shall flourish like the palm tree, like a cedar of Lebanon shall he grow. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. R.

* They shall bear fruit even in old age; vigorous and sturdy shall they be, declaring how just is the Lord, my rock, in whom there is no wrong. R.

2nd Reading 2 Cor 5:6-10

Writing to the faithful of Corinth, St. Paul points out that, although they would prefer to be with the Lord right away, what mattered was for all to live in a way that pleased Him, in view of the judgment to come.

R —A proclamation from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians*

Brothers and sisters: We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body, we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord!

All—Thanks be to God!

* *Editor's Note: The passage below is from the "Christian Community Bible" — a much clearer translation than that of the New American Bible, used in the Lectionary. You may use this translation or the one from the Lectionary, which is printed above.*

R —A proclamation from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: We feel confident always. We

know that while living in the body, we are exiled from the Lord, living by faith, without seeing; but we dare to think that we would rather be away from the body to go and live with the Lord. So, whether we have to keep this house or lose it, we only wish to please the Lord. Anyway we all have to appear before the tribunal of Christ for each one to receive what he deserves for his good or evil deeds in the present life.

The Word of the Lord!

All—Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

All—Alleluia! Alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower.

All who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 4:26-34

Jesus compares the Kingdom to a seed. In the first parable, he emphasizes that the Kingdom's inner potential for growth does not come from man but from God. In the second parable, he illustrates that the tiny seed of the Kingdom will attain amazing growth.

P —The Lord be with you!

All—And with your spirit!

P —A proclamation from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All—Glory to you, O Lord!

Jesus said to the crowds: "This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come."

He said, "To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the

ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade.” With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it.

Without parables he did not speak to them, but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

The Gospel of the Lord!

All—Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Homily

Profession of Faith

(Nicene Creed)

All—I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Prayer of the Faithful

P—Today’s Gospel reminds us that in the actualization of God’s plan, we are not supposed to be distracted onlookers but generous partners who do our share by spreading the seed of the Kingdom and by fulfilling its demands in our daily lives. As we pray for the grace to do just that, let our response be:

All—Lord, may Your Kingdom come!

C—For the universal Church, who has been commissioned by Christ to carry on his mission to sow the seed of the Kingdom throughout the world: May she do so with constant faithfulness and hope-filled heart. Let us pray! *R.*

C—For the Holy Father and the leaders of the local Christian communities: May they ever more lead the faithful by their example in zealously proclaiming the Kingdom and by making it a convincing reality in their lives. Let us pray! *R.*

C—For our civil, political, and cultural leaders: May their plans and courses of action promote and support the values of God’s Kingdom, such as justice, freedom, and peace. Let us pray! *R.*

C—For parents, teachers and catechists, and all those responsible for the formation of the new generation: May they be vital partners in planting the seed of the Kingdom and fostering its growth in the hearts and minds of the young persons entrusted to their care. Let us pray! *R.*

C—For our parish, BECs, and charismatic communities: May they be signs and bearers of the power and holiness of God’s Kingdom to all their members and all sectors of society. Let us pray! *R.*

C—Let us pray in silence for our personal intentions and needs. *(Pause)*

Let us pray! *R.*

P—Lord God, You are the conceptualizer, the first supporter and perfect fulfillment of the

wonder of Your Kingdom. We thank You for having called us to be Your partners in the spread and growth of Your saving project. Grant us the faith, humility, and perseverance that we need in the accomplishment of this sublime mission. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen!



Preparation of the Gifts

P—Pray, brethren . . .

All—May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P—O God, who in the offerings presented here provide for the twofold needs of human nature, nourishing us with food and renewing us with your Sacrament, grant, we pray, that the sustenance they provide may not fail us in body or in spirit.

Through Christ our Lord.

All—Amen!

Preface VII

P—It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.

For you so loved the world that in your mercy you sent us the Redeemer, to live like us in all things but sin, so that you might love in us what you loved in your Son, by whose obedience we have been restored to those gifts of yours that, by sinning, we had lost in disobedience.

And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints, we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation we acclaim:

All—Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Memorial Acclamation

P –The mystery of faith!

All–Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.



All–Our Father . . .

P –Deliver us, Lord . . .

All–For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Breaking of the Bread

All–Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. (2x)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Communion

P –Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the Supper of the Lamb.

All–Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon

(To be recited only when no Communion Hymn is sung.)

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Prayer after Communion

P –As this reception of your Holy Communion, O Lord, foreshadows the union of the faithful in you, so may it bring about unity in your Church.

Through Christ our Lord.

All–Amen!

CONCLUDING RITES



P –The Lord be with you.

All–And with your spirit!

P –Bow your heads and pray for God’s blessing. *(Pause)*
It has pleased the Father to entrust to you the treasure of His Kingdom. May you appreciate its preciousness and share its blessings with all those around you!

All–Amen!

P –May you treasure the values of the Kingdom, uphold them, and live them out in

your daily undertakings!
All–Amen!

P –May the Lord give you a clear mind, a pure heart, and a strong will to be heralds and laborers of the Kingdom in this life, and heirs to its blessings in the life to come!

All–Amen!

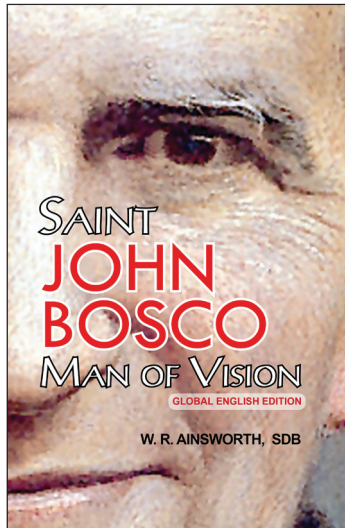
P –May almighty God bless you: the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All–Amen!

P –Go in the peace of Christ and be witnesses of the Kingdom wherever you are!

All–Thanks be to God!

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